

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:405
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2000
MASSACRES IN BIHAR
HARIBHAU MAHALE;RENU KUMARI SINGH

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent riots in Bihar Sharief and massacre in the State;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government have asked for a report from the State Government;
- (c) if so, the conclusions drawn therefrom;
- (d) whether the Union Government have given some stringent directions to the State Government to check recurrence of such incidents; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (I.D. SWAMI)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir.

The Government of Bihar informed that two major incidents occurred during October, 2000 at Bihar Sharief town (Nalanda District) and Muzahidapur - Tahira villages (Siwan District) over the installation of an idol at a disputed site, and control of the Kabir Math lands at Dhanauti, respectively.

The situation has since been brought under control.

(d) & (e): 'Public Order & Police' are State subjects as per the provisions of the Constitution of India and the State Governments are primarily responsible for registration, investigation of crime and maintenance of law & Order. The Union Government shares information and sends alert messages/advisories to enable the concerned State Governments to take appropriate action. Detailed guidelines for promotion of communal harmony have been issued in October, 1997 to all States/Uts. The Central Para-Military Forces are made available to them on specific requests, and a special Force called the Rapid Action Force has been deployed exclusively for dealing with communal tensions. Assistance is also being provided to them for improving their policing infrastructure.